

Fruit Farming

Jeremiah Albert Jr.
Sidney Theophilus
Mary Jane Tietjen
Electa Ruth Henigar
Matilda Evelyn Dahl
Bessie Henrietta Ludwig
Francis Sophia Smith.

JEREMIAH AND RUTH
TUCKER ROBEY



Jeremiah Robey, son of Jeremiah Robey and Mary Ogden Robey. Born April 14, 1809 in Harrison County, West Virginia.

Married Ruth Tucker November 7, 1833. Died November 22, 1903, Midway.

Ruth Tucker was born June 26, 1816 at Shinston, West Virginia, a daughter of Jeremiah and Ruth Ashcroft Tucker. She died in Midway, January 17, 1892.

Jeremiah Robey's parents were among the wealthy, prominent people of Harrison County and had a large family of sturdy sons and daughters. His mother was a sister to Susan Ogden Bigler, the mother of the late Bathsheba Bigler Smith, and grandmother of Edna and Juliena Smith, widows of the late President Joseph F. Smith.

In his early manhood Mr. Robey learned the trade of carpenter and cabinetmaker. He went from one place to another where carpenters were needed, always demanding a good wage. His uncle, Mark Bigler and wife Susan, had become members of the Church and had moved to Nauvoo. Mrs. Robey had also been converted, but her husband had not, he was away in Indiana on a carpenter job. Mrs. Robey decided to go to Nauvoo. She took her three little children and joined the Biglers there. They wrote Mr. Robey that work was plentiful in Nauvoo, so he met his family there in 1841. His wife had been a member of the Church for three years, but as yet he had not been converted.

When they arrived in Nauvoo, they were welcomed by his friends and uncle's family. After remaining in Nauvoo for a short time, she was converted to the Gospel, and was baptized in May, 1841, by the Prophet Joseph Smith. In October, 1842, he was ordained an Elder by Wilford Woodruff.

While in Nauvoo he worked unceasingly on the Temple and was the one to hang the last door. He went through all the trials and persecutions of the saints at that time, but never faltered in his faith. He was very much grieved over the martyrdom of Joseph and Hyrum. After he left Nauvoo he went to Pisgah, where he remained for a time and then went to Council Bluffs and from there he joined the David Wood Company and came to Utah, arriving in Provo in August, 1852. While in Provo, he, in company with Edwin Bunnell, worked as a cabinet-maker and carpenter. He settled in Provo on the advice of his cousin, George A. Smith, who said there was need of carpenters and cabinetmakers in that place. In 1859, he came to Midway and was one of the early settlers of Provo Valley. After arriving here he devoted most of his time to farming, as his second son, Jeremiah A. Robey, had learned the trade of carpentry and could handle most of the work here.

On November 7, 1833, he married Ruth Tucker, by whom he had ten children. In 1876, he went on a mission to his old home in West Virginia and met most of his relatives, whom he had not seen since 1841.

He was one of the pioneer bee-raisers of this valley, and he set out some of the first fruit trees—apple, pear and plum. He raised currants, gooseberries, and strawberries for his own table and had success with celery.

For a number of years he was recorder for the Snake Creek Mining District, and he held the position of school trustee for over thirteen years. He was a quiet, unassuming man. He lived to see his fifth generation and had a picture taken with them. He was always an earnest advocate of the gospel, and loved to bear his testimony to its truthfulness. He impressed upon his family and friends the knowledge he knew that Joseph Smith was a prophet of God. After the death of his wife in 1892, he made his home with his youngest daughter, Matilda Springer, until his death.

After an illness of one week, at the age of 94 years and seven months, he passed away. In his latter days he did a great

deal of temple work for his ancestors, both in the Salt Lake and Manti Temples.

Ruth came to Utah with her husband and five children, and settled in Provo. She joined the Church in her native state, West Virginia, in 1838, having been converted by some missionaries who were laboring in that section.

When she left with her children to go to Nauvoo she had no idea she would not return again to her West Virginia home and her people, but she never did, and never saw any of them again. She moved to Midway with her husband and family in the spring of 1859.

She endured many of the trials and hardships incidental to pioneer life, but was always cheerful and contented.

She was hospitable and made every one welcome in her home; no one was turned away hungry from her door. She was a good hand in sickness and helped many who were suffering and in pain. She was always kind to little children and was loved and revered by her grandchildren. At the death of her daughter, Susan, she took her three little motherless girls and reared them to womanhood, caring for them as though they were her very own. The girls were: Sarah Jane Ross, who married Henry Alexander, Jr.; Susan Ross, who married William O'Neill; and Lavernia Virginia Ross, who married Hiram Gould, and later Fred Eder.

She was a sweet singer and used to sing the old-fashioned songs, and tell stories of her early days and experiences in crossing the plains and during the early Indian troubles. She loved to bear her testimony to the truthfulness of the Gospel, and that Joseph Smith was a prophet of the Lord. She was loved and respected by all who knew her. She died very suddenly while sitting in her chair on a Sunday morning at the age of 75 years and six months. She is buried in the Midway Cemetery.

The children of Jeremiah and Ruth Tucker Robey were:

Theophilus Katen, married Sarah Mathews and later Maria Rolfe;

Mary Jane, married Sidney H. Epperson; Susan Luvernia, married James Ross;

James Allison, died in infancy;

Maria and Sophia, twins, died in early childhood;

Jeremiah Albert, married Martha Dowdle;

Matilda, married Nathan Springer;

Twin boys, who died at birth.

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Like a distant memory, mist of spray settled over orchard

bought — with his brothers, I think — a long, red tank three times the size of Owen's. Powered by an airplane engine, it gave out a high, deafening whine you could hear all over town. I remember the sprayer my dad used to — though now.

MEANDERINGS

